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of the
FORTEAN RESEARCH CENTER

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**EXPLORING
UNEXPLAINED
PHENOMENA**

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FORTEAN RESEARCH CENTER
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The purpose of the Fortean Research Center is to investigate all aspects of unexplained phenomena, including UFOs, cryptozoological mysteries, out-of-place animal sightings, geological and archaeological anomalies, psychic phenomena, and all other areas of study which may provide data useful to the resolution of these perplexing mysteries. Our other prime purpose is to serve as a source of accurate, reliable information for the public at large.



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A NOTE FROM THE EDITOR

This, the first issue of the Journal of the Fortean Research Center was put together in considerable haste. It was our intention to make the first issue twice this size, or sixteen pages in length. Due to time considerations, this was simply impossible.

We will remain a quarterly for a while, in order to ease the constraints on time placed on our staff. However, we do hope to publish no less than 64 pages per year, and our goal is twice that amount. We hope you appreciate our efforts, and help us to grow bigger, and better. Thank you.

Membership in the Fortean Research Center is \$15.00 per year. Membership fees include a subscription to this Journal, discounts on special publications of the Center, and reduced fees to conferences sponsored by the Fortean Research Center. Please contact us at the address listed on the masthead. And remember, in order to carry on investigations and research into the unexplained, we need your help. Thank you.

FORTEAN RESEARCH JOURNAL

WELCOME TO THE FORTEAN RESEARCH CENTER

On February 12, 1986, the Fortean Research Center was incorporated in Lincoln, Nebraska, as a non-profit entity for the purpose of exploring all aspects of unexplained phenomena. We are currently seeking our tax-exempt status from the Internal Revenue Service, and hope to achieve this by late summer.

In forming a non-profit entity to conduct research into phenomena, one of our primary purposes is public education regarding these mysteries. Many of our readers will be aware that since October, 1984, Scott Colborn and myself have produced an hour-long weekly radio show on Lincoln's KZUM-FM. This, I feel, has been invaluable in educating the listening audience in various aspects of the unexplained. With our non-profit status, we hope to be able to syndicate our program nationally. To do this, it is imperative that money for production costs be available. We are now in a position to begin seeking grants from various foundations for this purpose.

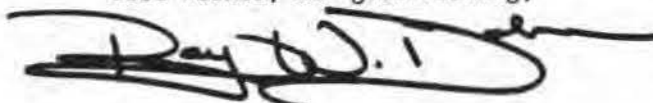
In addition to the work on our radio programming, our quarterly Journal, which you now have, and our basic research efforts, we hope to resume the series of conferences on the unexplained which were sponsored by the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, in 1982 and 1983. In order to maintain the high quality of speakers which we were able to present previously, again, an important consideration is financing. We will be exploring many avenues to raise the necessary funds, and we will keep you posted on our progress.

For those of you unfamiliar with my work, a brief introduction is in order. I have been actively involved in researching UFOs, animal mutilations, out-of-place animal sightings, 'monster' reports, and many other unexplained events for the last 20 years. I currently serve as Nebraska State Director for the Mutual UFO Network, and work with many other organizations worldwide. I also serve on the Board of Advisors for an organization known as Citizens Against UFO Secrecy (CAUS) which has been at the forefront of efforts to force the release of government-held documents on UFOs.

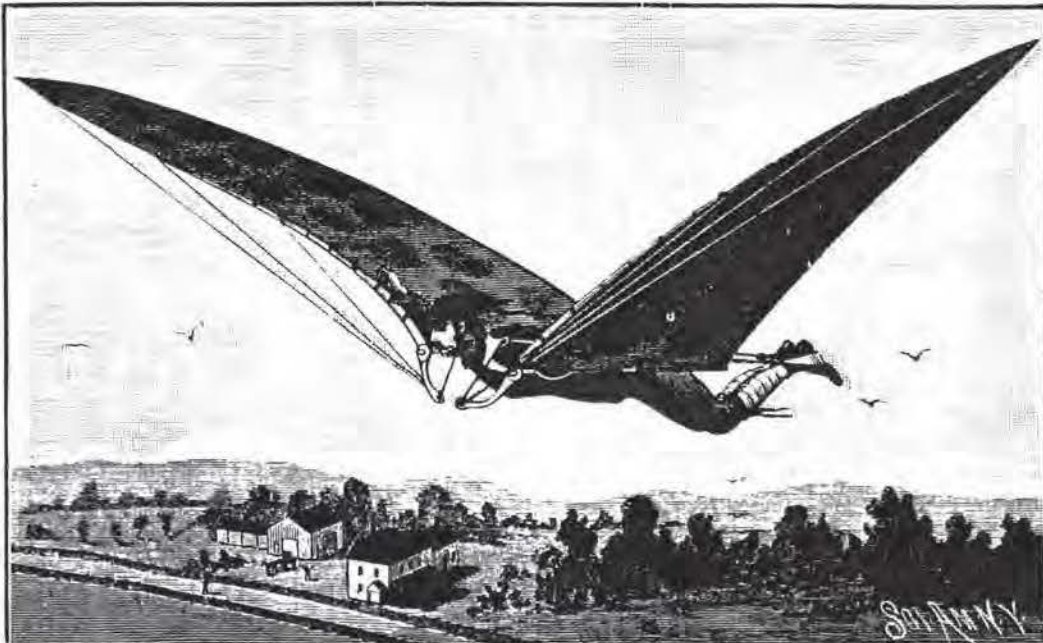
I hold a B.A. degree in Art and Education from Peru State College, and am currently employed as a graphic artist by one of the 20 largest printing companies in the United States. I have invested 30 to 40 hours of my time per week to investigation of unexplained phenomena for the last six years, and invested thousands of dollars of my own money into these investigations. I mention this only to indicate my dedication to these efforts, and hopefully to inspire others to the same type of dedication.

Whatever the answers to the many mysteries that confront us, they are sure to prove vital to humanity's view of itself and the universe which surrounds it. People just like you and I are confronted with the unexplained every day—I feel it is important to determine what these individuals are experiencing, and through this, I believe we will be able to expand mankind's knowledge of his world immeasurably. I hope you share this curiosity, and I hope you share a desire to help us accomplish this.

Best wishes, and good reading,



Ray W. Boeche.
Director



WINGED WONDER OVER FALLS CITY?

A fascinating account of a "winged weirdie" was given to me several months ago by the witness to the event. The name of the witness is on file, and available to serious researchers. We will refer to the gentleman as Mr. Hanks, because of his request for anonymity.

On a beautiful autumn afternoon in 1956, Hanks and his family were returning home from an outing. The family had unloaded their car, and gone into the house, while Hanks readied some equipment he needed at work, in his pickup truck. As he was going about this, he noticed what he at first thought was a kite, about 3 blocks away from his home. As he watched, the kite drew closer, and Hanks assumed that it had gotten away from whoever was flying it.

As this object fluttered to within about a block of his position, Hanks realized that it was not a kite, but a human-like form, with wings. As the thing came closer, Hanks was able to see the creature's face, which he described as "very frightening, almost demonic."

"It's eyes were very large, blue in color, and watery. They were shaped and placed on his face almost like horse's eyes. The skin on his face was like tan leather. It was very wrinkled, and seemed to overlap in folds. I had a good look at his face—he was only about 25 feet away, and hovering maybe 15 feet above the ground. He was between eight and nine feet tall."

As Hanks watched, the creature wobbled, and almost fell to the street below. After recovering, the creature flew toward Hanks, and passed directly overhead. Interestingly, as Hanks watched the creature approaching closer, he tried to move, and found he couldn't. He was experiencing some sort of paralysis.

As the creature passed overhead, Hanks was able to observe the wings of the thing. He described them as like polished aluminum, with a grid-like appearance on the top side. The under side of the wings each had 4 or 5 colored lights about four inches in diameter—the lights closest to his body on either side glowed blue, then a yellow, then an orange, and finally a red light out toward

WINGED WONDER, . . . cont.,

each wing tip. The wing was at least fifteen feet long, from tip to tip, according to Hanks. He indicated that the wings appeared to be about two feet wide next to the creature's body, and three feet wide at the tip.

When asked how the wing was attached, Hanks said that, "It was fastened to him by a shoulder harness, which seemed to have a breast plate of some sort with dials on it. He seemed to touch and move these dials, but his hands, if that's what they were, looked more like white dove's wings, all opened up."

Hanks went on to say that as the creature passed overhead, he heard a sound like air hissing from what he thought was the rear of the wing. As he watched, the creature moved off into the distance, and disappeared behind a group of trees about 2 blocks away. After the creature was out of sight, Hanks was able to move again. He said that the entire event lasted somewhere between eight and ten minutes.

According to Hanks, for the next 23 years, he was continually bothered by nightmares in which this creature would reappear. He became, in his own words, "a workaholic-I wouldn't sleep any more than I absolutely had to, and worked constantly so I wouldn't have time to think about it." Finally, over a period of three years, Hanks was able to overcome this obsession by forcing himself to write out the story, and then destroy it.

Evidently this served as a suitable catharsis, because Hanks concluded by saying, "I still don't understand it, but it doesn't matter any more."

DEFENSE INTELLIGENCE AGENCY DOCUMENTS RELEASED

On December 18, 1985, the Fortean Research Center received 139 pages of previously unreleased documents from the Defense Intelligence Agency, concerning their interests in UFOs. This release of documents was in response to a Freedom of Information Act request which had been sent some nine months earlier.

Although many of the documents are virtually unreadable, there are dozens of truly fascinating reports, including one which deals with the Peruvian Air Force's scrambling of fighters to pursue UFOs on two different occasions.

Also mentioned in four of the documents is PROJECT MOON DUST, a project which the reports imply is UFO related. FOIA requests to some 18 various agencies have been submitted to try and obtain all possible information on this project. Hopefully, we will be able to report more fully on PROJECT MOON DUST in the next issue of the Journal.

For those interested in copies of these documents, they are available as the entire set, for our cost of photocopying, and postage. All 139 pages (8½ x 14") are available for a total cost of \$23.50. If you would like a set of these important documents, please let us know as soon as possible.

The Defense Intelligence Agency has been very reluctant in the past to release their UFO-related information, and we feel very fortunate to have received this body of documents. As mentioned earlier, we are continuing our efforts to try and discover exactly what PROJECT MOON DUST is, and what relationship it has to the government's interest in UFO incidents.

WHAT'S A MILO, MAN?

We are currently trying to track down further verification of sightings of a bipedal humanoid creature which has been dubbed 'Milo Man'. Reports of this rather strangely named creature have been surfacing infrequently for about six months. The alleged creature has gained its name from the locale where the witnesses believe it lives, namely, a milo field.

The most coherent and credible account to date involves a young man who had driven to his brother's rural Lincoln, Nebraska home to spend the night, only to find his brother was away, and the house locked. Having no other choice, he decided to sleep in the back seat of his car. Sometime during the night he was awakened by the car being violently shaken around.. Thinking at first it was his brother, who had returned, he sat up and looked out the back window.

He observed a much-larger-than-human form, which was standing near the rear of the car, and shaking it back and forth. Not knowing what else to do, he hid on the floor of the car until this large hair-covered figure tired of its car shaking, and wandered off.

The next morning, on the brother's return, he related his experience, and was told that several farmers in the area had also seen this creature, and had dubbed it Milo Man. The above outlined event occurred in late September, 1985, and we are currently following further leads to try and establish additional sightings, and further corroboration. We'll have more on this as we uncover it.

WHERE'S STEVE MCQUEEN WHEN YOU NEED HIM?

Here's another previously unpublished report which is long overdue for entrance into Fortean literature. As the more astute among you may have guessed by the title, it concerns the sighting of (what else?) a "blob".

In September of 1969, a young Nebraska City, Nebraska man, Maurice Colbert, and his girlfriend were parked along a 'lover's lane' area north of Nebraska City, near the banks of the Missouri River. The young lady began to complain that she was hearing strange noises outside of the car. After a good deal of prodding, Maurice was finally persuaded that she was serious, and after listening, realized that there were some strange 'slurping' noises coming from outside.

Maurice left the car, and seeing nothing initially, moved towards the rear of the vehicle, where the sounds became louder. Describing the night as a very bright, moonlit evening, Maurice was able to see what he described as "an amoeba-shaped blob, about six feet across, and about 18 inches thick, moving along the ground." He indicated the 'blob' would move much as an amoeba, by extending a gelatinous pseudopod, and then pulling itself along in that direction, or rather flowing into itself.

After watching the 'blob' for about 2 minutes, it had moved six to eight feet closer to the car. Maurice indicated that the purplish-pink 'thing' had no discernible odor, and seemed to have no awareness of his presence. Later examination of the site showed a sort of trail which had apparently been pushed clear of small sticks, pebbles, and other debris as the creature flowed along the ground.

Due to the highly unusual nature of this event, I am unable even to speculate as to a normal explanation for the event. I would be very interested in hearing

STEVE MCQUEEN, ...cont.,

from any other researchers who may be aware of similar incidents. The only possibility I am aware of would be the appearance of a giant slime mold. But six feet across? All comments on this one are welcome.

FORTEAN NEWS FLASHES

The Missouri Court of Appeals didn't buy the story of a man who said his wife's lover was shot in the stomach by his shotgun-wielding poodle. Lawrence Freukes, 37, of north St. Louis county, was accused of shooting John Schlereth March 16, 1982 at Freukes' home. The suspect had testified in St. Louis County Circuit Court that the gun discharged when his large poodle caught its paw in the trigger and knocked the gun to the floor. Freukes' wife, Bernice, testified that her husband had told Schlereth: "I'm in a lot of trouble. You've got to tell them the dog did it." (Omaha World-Herald, February 7, 1986)

An item of interest for all of you who follow phantom helicopter sightings, from the January, 1986 issue of Research and Development magazine. A joint effort between NASA and most major helicopter manufacturers (including McDonnell Douglas, Boeing Vertol, Sikorsky, and Bell Helicopters) is under way to drastically reduce noise produced by rotary-wing aircraft. Most of the work thus far has been analytical and ground test R & D, but flight tests are planned for the near future. The program is a five-year, \$10 million dollar effort headed by NASA-Langley, and is called the National Rotorcraft Noise Reduction program (NRNR).

The hood of a woman's car was damaged when a 30-pound crash beacon from an Air Force C-5 Galaxy cargo plane fell on it, on February 4, 1986. The beacon fell while the plane was landing at Jacksonville (Fla.) Naval Air Station. The military has agreed to pay for repairs to the car. (Lincoln, NE Journal, February 6, 1986.)

A blue fireball as bright as the moon streaked across the nighttime sky and exploded above southwestern British Columbia and northern Washington state, a Vancouver, B. C. astronomer said. (Lincoln, NE Star, February 20, 1986)

Scientists have made the largest fossil find in North America, uncovering more than 100,000 bone pieces of animals 200 million years old at a site in Nova Scotia. The fossils represent life in the boundary between the Triassic period, which began 240 million years ago, and the Jurassic, which began 200 million years ago. The scientists said the new findings point to a catastrophic extinction right at the Triassic-Jurassic boundary - such as an asteroid impacting the Earth - that wiped out more than 40 percent of the land and lake animals of that time. (Lincoln, NE Journal, January 29, 1986.)

A new island is being born in the Pacific Ocean near Iwo Jima, the first volcanic addition to the region in 78 years. Crowned by a still-erupting lava cone, the new island is already 2,310 feet long, 990 feet wide, and about 50 feet high. New islands had been seen near Iwo Jima in 1905, and again in 1908, but submerged after 1908. (Lincoln, NE Star, January 22, 1986.)

And finally, for all of you who have always wanted a flying saucer, but didn't know where to go to buy one, a company called Starcraft Indusry has just what you need. Called the Starcraft 1, the aircraft is 12 feet in diameter, has a 12,000 foot ceiling, and a top speed of 140 mph. Call Starcraft at (801) 363-6612.

FORTEAN RESEARCH JOURNAL

HELP OUR FRIENDS

There are many other organizations dealing with the unexplained. They are all doing the best they can with the resources available to them, and your help in joining these organizations, and helping support them both financially and in spirit, would be greatly appreciated.

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Seguin, Texas, 78155

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PROJECT STIGMA
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THE GATE
P.O. Box 43518
Richmond Heights
Ohio 44143

CITIZENS AGAINST UFO SECRECY
P.O. Box 218
Coventry, Connecticut 06238

The Fortean Research Center is happy to carry listings of other related publications and organizations in exchange for similar listings or in exchange for copies of said publications.

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